Setting up of Electronic Assembling Units

3064. SHRI YALLA SESI BHUSHANA RAO : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state;

(a) whether it is a fact that some electronic assembling units are likely to be started in some of the rural areas ;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Khadi and Village Industries Commission is in touch with State Electronic Corporations for setting up modern units for assembling electronic items in the rural areas;

(c) if so, whether the commission had talks with the Andhra Pradesh State Electronic Corporation to start electronic assembling units in the State;

(d) the number of such units that are proposed to be set up in different parts of the country; and

(e) the number of units that are proposed to be set up in Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) to (c) Yes. Sir.

(d) and (e) These details are expected to be worked out in the discussion between Khadi and Village Industries Commission and the concerned organisation in Andhra Pradesh.

Special Pay as "Pay" for Pensionary Benefits

3065. SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the question of treating Special Pay as "Pay" for pensionary benefits is under the consideration of Government; and

(b) if so, the details thereof; and by when a decision is expected to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

People below Poverty Line in Villages and Towns

3066. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of people below poverty line both in villages and towns in West Bengal, Bihar and Orissa and the National average in India, as in 1975, 1985, 1988 and 1989;

(b) the percentage of the Tribals below the poverty line in these States in the same period; and

(c) the percentage of the Scheduled Cates and Scheduled Tribes, below poverty line?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING AND THE MINISTER OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) to (c) The estimates of persons below the poverty line for the nation and the States are based on the quinquennial survey of consumer expenditure by the National Sample Survey Organisation. These estimates are available for

the years 1977-78 and 1983-84. Statements giving the poverty estimates for West Bengal, Bihar, Orissa and for the Country as a whole for 1977-78 and 1983-84 are enclosed. [*See* Appendix CXLIX, Annexure No. 165 and 166]

Handling of Child Births in Rural Areas by Untrained Practitioners

3067. SHRI YALLA SESI BHUSHANA RAO: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 70 percent child births in the rural areas are handled by untrained practitioners;

(b) whether our country lacks the infrastructure needed to handle the child births in the proper way; and

(c) if so, what steps Government propose to take to prevent untrained practitioners handling child births endangering the life of the child as well as of the mother?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILE AND THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The rural health infrastructure is being strengthened to provide one Sub-centre for every 5000 population in the general areas and 3000 population in the hilly, tribals and remote areas. A subcentre is manned by an Auxiliary Nurse Midwife (female health worker) who is trained to conduct deliveries. Also, the Traditional Birth Attendants (Dais), practising in the rural areas are being trained under a Centrally Sponsored Scheme. So far 5·72 lakhs dais have been trained since the inception of the scheme in 1974.

Reduction in the cost of T.V. sets and VCR/VCPS

3068. SHRI T.R. BALU
SHRI RAMSINH RATHWA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what measures have been taken by Government in the recent years to reduce the cost and import content in black and white and colour T.V. sets and in VCR/VCP;

(b) what is the result of these measures; and

(c) what is the projected import content for these products in 1992?

THE MINISTER OF S ATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) The following measures have been taken by Government to reduce the cost and import content in B&W and CTV sets and VCR/VCP:

1. Issuing industrial approvals with viable production capacity so that economies of scale are derived and healthy competition encouraged.

2. Broadbanding of Industrial Licence approvals for Colour and B&W TV sets.

3. Re-endorsement of industrial capacities with reference to the minimum economic scale of operation has been allowed for Colour TV production.

4. Letter of Intent have been issued for setting up of VCR/VCP plants having in-depth manufacturing facilities with suitable